

Application No. 10/714,852
Reply to Office Action of

6. The marked genotypes means that we had examined IgA antibody titer against PAc in human saliva and inserted the examined antibody titer into the marked portion respectively.

7. The examining method was done as same as described in the above-identified application and the attached article titled "Role of peptide antigen for induction of inhibitory antibodies to Streptococcus mutance in the human oral cavity"(Tsuha et al (2004) *Clin. Exp Immunol*, 137:393-401).

8. In this table, the DRB1 groups in which the antibody titer was 2 or more are identified as belonging to the "High group" and the DRB1 groups in which the antibody titer were less than 2 belong to the "Low group". Therefore, when the antibody titer belongs to "High group", the caries risk is low, and when antibody titer belongs to "Low group", the caries risk is high.

9. This Table is exemplary of how one correlates the relationship between antibody titer and genotype that is prior to the claimed method. As discussed in the specification, using this type of correlation, one can simply obtain a sample from a subject identify the DRB*1 genotype, compare it to the correlation to assess whether the subject is at risk of developing caries based on the genotypes identified from the subject. In other words, if the subject has a genotype that has been correlated to the high group, then that subject is at risk of developing dental caries.